

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 remain pending in the application, unchanged.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. The only rejection is a provisional double-patenting rejection, over 2003-0040326. That latter application has not yet been taken up for examination.

The undersigned has docketed a reminder to alert the Examiner handling 2003-0040326 of the present Examiner's provisional rejection in this application, so that this matter can be addressed in the later application.

Since the only remaining rejection in the present application is a provisional one, passage to issuance is believed to be appropriate. See MPEP 804(I)(B):

The "provisional" double patenting rejection should continue to be made by the examiner in each application as long as there are conflicting claims in more than one application unless that "provisional" double patenting rejection is the only rejection remaining in at least one of the applications.

On July 1, 2005, the undersigned filed an IDS listing six US patent references for the Examiner's consideration. The Examiner is requested to kindly return an initialed copy of that IDS for applicant's file.

Date: February 27, 2006

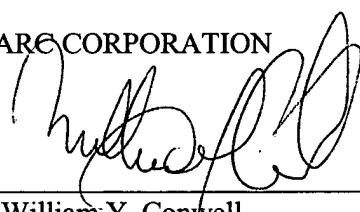
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Respectfully submitted,

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